

General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5521

January Session, 2009

_____HB05521JUD___042809____

AN ACT ELIMINATING CREDIT REPORTS AS A BASIS FOR EMPLOYMENT DECISIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2009) (a) No employer or an 2 employer's agent, representative or designee may require an employee or prospective employee to consent to the creation of a consumer 4 report that contains information about the employee's or prospective 5 employee's credit score, credit account balances, savings or checking 6 account balances or savings or checking account numbers, as a 7 condition of employment unless (1) such a report is substantially 8 related to the employee's current or potential job, (2) such report is 9 required by law, or (3) the employer has reasonable cause to believe 10 the employee has engaged in specific activity that constitutes a 11 violation of the law. For the purposes of this section, "employee" 12 means any person engaged in service to an employer in a business of 13 his employer, and "employer" means any person engaged in business 14 who has one or more employees, including the state or any political 15 subdivision of the state.

(b) Any employee or prospective employee may file a complaint with the Labor Commissioner alleging a violation of the provisions of subsection (a) of this section. Upon receipt of such complaint, the commissioner shall hold a hearing, in accordance with the provisions

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20 of chapter 54 of the general statutes. The commissioner shall impose a 21 fine of five hundred dollars on an employer for each report created in 22 violation of this section, which shall be paid to the aggrieved employee 23 or prospective employee, and may award the employee or prospective 24 employee all other appropriate relief. Any party aggrieved by a

25 decision of the commissioner may appeal the decision to the Superior

Court in accordance with the provisions of said chapter 54. 26

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: Section 1 October 1, 2009 New section

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